

# How to Measure Your Home's Energy Footprint

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## Probe utility bills

They can reveal patterns of energy usage — and help homeowners track the savings from upgrades.

## Discover heat leaks

Many homeowners pay for professional energy audits. You can perform your own evaluation using an audit tool available online from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory ([hes.lbl.gov](http://hes.lbl.gov)). It combines details about a home with local weather records to create a full-year, hour-by-hour simulation of energy use. And it delivers a prioritized list of home improvements.

## Hunt power drains

Kill A Watt is a tool that plugs in between an appliance and an outlet, tracking the electricity being used. The PowerCost Monitor connects to an electrical meter and displays total household usage (and its cost).

## Judge appliances

Online savings calculators ([energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov)) can help home-owners see how much money and air pollution they can save by upgrading old dishwashers, freezers and other appliances.